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Mild winter?
Furry friends are forecasting
Page 9

Making a pledge
Teens promise to not text and drive
Page 12

Farewell
Seniors thank out-going regional council-
lor Bob Saracino; page 11

Mental illness
Margaret Trudeau shares her experiences
Page 14

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■ POLITICS

Departing Port
councillors say farewell

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — It's not good-
bye, it's "farewell for now," Mayor Vance
Badawey told out-going city councillors
during the final meeting of the 2006-10
term.
see **PORT COLBORNE** page 2

■ **COUNCIL:** Mayor and outgoing council say goodbye

Henderson says tough decisions ahead



WAYNE CAMPBELL
InPort News Staff

WAINFLEET — Mayor
Barb Henderson in her final
township council meet-
ing expressed pride in the
accomplishments of her
council.

She thanked its members,
three of whom, Aids. Ron
Kramer, Evan Main and
Rudy Warkentin, are also
leaving.

And she told the council-
elect "the challenges will be
many and the decisions will
be tough."

She described the accom-
plishments of her council
as many small steps in the
progress of the township.

"I believe we are leaving
behind a firm foundation for
the council-elect to build
on."

The township updated its
official plan for the first time
in 30 years.

see **WAINFLEET** page 2

WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Wainfleet Township council for 2006-10 held its final meeting Tuesday at Wainfleet township hall. From left are Ald. Rudy Warkentin, Mayor Barbara Henderson and Aids. Ron Kramer and Ted Hessels. Ald. Evan Main is absent because he was chairing the final meeting of the Niagara Central Airport Commission. Only Hessels is returning.

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■ PORT COLBORNE

Tears, laughs mark final meeting

FROM PAGE 1

There were a few tears and a lot of laughs at Port Colborne city hall as the mayor, councillors and staff reflected on their time together over the past four years.

Badawey admitted he struggled to find the words to properly recognize the six councillors who are not returning for every thing they've done for the community.

Ward 2 Couns. Domicen Ursini and Frank DiBartolomeo, Ward 3 Coun. Cory Bruno and Ward 4 Coun. Kate Leigh are leaving council chambers, alongside Regional Coun. Bob Saracino whose role is being taken on by Ward 1 Coun. David Barrick.

"These six have put 48 years of service into the City of Port Colborne between them... that is to be commended," Badawey said.

"Your contributions will be everlasting. That goes without saying."

He expects the faces of each of the six outgoing members to remain familiar as they continue with their passion for involvement within the community.

Each outgoing councillor was presented with a plaque and given the opportunity to address their fellow councillors and the public.

While his 38-year run in office has come to an end, Saracino said "representing the great citizens of Port Colborne has been, is and will continue to be my passion."

He thanked his family and the public for what he called



MAYRANNE FIRTH

Staff Photo

Regional Coun. Bob Saracino was honoured by Mayor Vance Badawey at city council meeting for his 38 years of public service. Saracino, who has held the role of councillor, mayor and regional councillor for Port Colborne, received a plaque and framed photo on behalf of the residents of the city as a token of appreciation for all he has done for the community over the years.

a "remarkable and memorable journey."

DiBartolomeo thanked residents of Ward 2 for "placing their trust with me for five consecutive elections."

His most gratifying memory over the past 16 years has been representing constituents when help is most needed, he said.

DiBartolomeo thanked his family and the public for their support over the years, as well as his campaign team and supporters at the polls in the October election when he sought the seat of mayor.

"My passion for municipal politics has not diminished," he said, adding he plans to continue his involvement in some capacity moving forward.

Ursini, who's vying to lead the Welland riding

Conservatives in next fall's provincial election, said he couldn't believe how fast the past seven years flew by.

"We've done a lot of good work here together," he told council, also crediting city staff for their hard work over the years.

For Bruno, the past 16 years in office have simply "been a blast."

"Where else do you get paid to do something so positive for the community?" he asked.

He said he's tried to bring humour to the table during his time in office, a trait that was obvious as he quipped to his family, "What do you guys do on Monday nights?"

Monday nights will still be filled with council meetings for Barrick, who said he's "looking forward to working

hand-in-hand and shoulder-to-shoulder" with Badawey and the new city council. He said he has worked to keep council transparent and accountable, a task he plans to continue at the regional level.

Leigh, who had difficulty holding back her tears, said the past seven years have been both "a privilege and a pleasure to be a part of."

Referred to by Bruno as a "steel fist in a velvet glove" Leigh thanked the citizens of Ward 4 for trusting her to be their voice, and thanked her fellow councillors for their support.

The inaugural meeting of Port Colborne's new city council is Monday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m.

nfirth@wellandtribune.ca

Council must reunite a divided community

FROM PAGE 1



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

establishes the planning principles and the strategic planning for the township," Henderson said.

"These long-term planning tools will be essential as the township looks to the future."

She stressed the role council played in protecting and promoting health care through cooperation with Port Colborne.

And securing \$3 million in infrastructure funding allowed the township to build three bridges, improve 25 kilometres of roads and provide a new playground, she said about partnership fund sharing with senior levels of government.

"Working together with the region and other partners is necessary to accomplish things otherwise unavailable."

She pointed to a revitalized landfill site and the purchase and development of new beach front as examples.

Working toward wastewater solutions along the lake shore "was the most contentious issue this council has dealt with."

"I believe this council acted courageously and with due diligence and responsibility in dealing with a very real health and safety issue," she said. "This issue has been decades in the making, it will not go away, it must be resolved."

A portrait of Wainfleet Mayor Barbara Henderson was placed on the wall of Wainfleet township council chambers Tuesday. She chaired her final meeting Tuesday evening after serving a four-year term as mayor. The portrait, a combination photography and painting, was done by Welland photographer Theis Bogner.

Henderson said the ability of the new council to reunite a divided community will be its greatest challenge.

The council-elect will learn "it cannot please all its constituents at any given time."

The reward for it is working together on a common goal.

Henderson served Wainfleet for seven years, three as alderman and four as mayor.

Her portrait now hangs on the wall of town hall with those of former township mayors.

wcampbell@wellandtribune.ca



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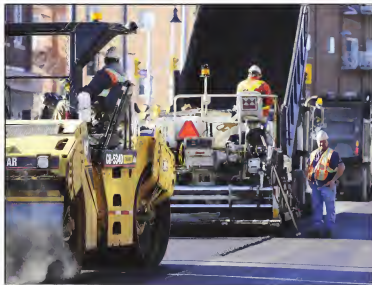
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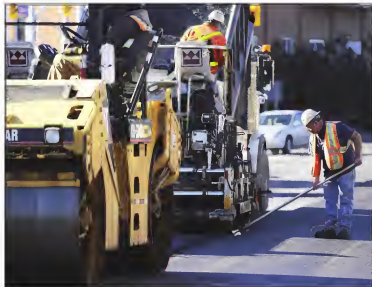
■ ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Repaving Port Colborne's Main St.



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Paving work on Main St. West got underway last week in Port Colborne. The paving is part of \$4.3-million Olde Humberstone Main St. streetscape/reconstruction project. The project includes curb realignment on Main St. from Elm St. to the Welland Canal, including sidewalks, decorative street lights and traffic signal poles, construction of three municipal parking lots and full milling and paving of the roadway. Main St. West was closed at the weir bridge last week as Trillium Railway rebuilt a crossing at the weir.



Santa will arrive in Port Colborne by tugboat

FROM PAGE 5

Tickets can be picked up at Children's or from a Lionsess.

Later tomorrow, at 1 p.m., Santa arrives downtown by tugboat. After the McKay School Choir formally greets the big guy, you can have your child's photo taken with Santa from 1:30-2:30 by my buddy, local photographer Precious LaPlante, for a small fee that includes free hot chocolate and goodies.

Then, of course, tomorrow night is the big night of the season — Port Colborne's annual lighted Santa Claus Parade, beginning at 6:30

p.m. and going from Port Colborne High School, south on Steele St. to Clarence St. where it heads east on Clarence to West St.

Making its way south on West to Charlotte St., the parade will go west on Charlotte to end at the Market Square, in front of City Hall. Children are welcome to visit with Santa in the lobby of City Hall and enjoy hot chocolate and goodies.

Port's Christmas magic continues Sunday with the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum's Grand Old Christmas Festival, which goes from noon to 4 p.m.

If you go each year, you know how magical it is. If

you've never been, go. Enjoy Christmas music, hot apple cider and roasted chestnuts while the kids have their photo taken with Santa. Anabella's Tea Room is serving hot tea and Christmas pudding. For more information call 905-634-7604.

'Tis the season indeed. Enjoy!

George Duma is a resident of Port Colborne and has spent 30 years in the newspaper business. He is currently a member of the Journalism faculty at Niagara College. He welcomes comments and column suggestions and can be reached at guma@cgscsco.ca



The beautification of downtown Ridgeway continues as this sidewalk area outside Roggio and Edwards Pharmacy on Ridge Rd. illustrates. The annual Spirit of Christmas Dickens Style Open House kicks off this evening and runs all day tomorrow.

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■ COLUMN

Introducing the new township council

I am very excited to have the opportunity to write this column to keep Wainfleet residents informed at both the municipal and regional levels.

I will utilize this first installment to introduce myself, and the new council. For those who do not know me, I am a wedding and portrait photographer and have owned and operated my photography business for the past nine years. My husband, Mike, and I, along with our two sons, have lived in Wainfleet for more than a decade. I have served on several committees, including the Public Liaison Committee for the sewer and water project and the playground site-selection



April Jeffs
MAYOR'S COLUMN

committee. I look forward to serving Wainfleet over the next four years.

Ald. Richard Dykstra: Richard is a cash crop farmer, and he and his wife, Nancy, along with their four children, have lived in Wainfleet for generations and also own Pond Perfections, a pond feature design business. Richard has served the community as a board member and coach for Wainfleet Minor Hockey, as well as actively contributing to the fence viewer's

committee and the advisory committee for Wainfleet's new Official Plan.

Ald. Ted Hessels: Ted is a dairy and cash crop farmer, and he and his wife, Yvonne, hail from Wellandport and have four children and two grandchildren. Ted is our only incumbent alderman, having served last term on Wainfleet council. Ted has chaired several committees, coached hockey and recently received his 25-year service award from the Wainfleet Fire Department.

Ald. Betty Konec: Betty and her husband, John, currently live in Port Colborne, but

resided for more than 15 years at their property on Lakeshore Rd. in Wainfleet. They have two children and a grandchild on the way. They own and operate K Motion, a trucking company located in Port Colborne. Betty has served on the Public Advisory Committee for the proposed sewer and water project and was the president of the Wainfleet Ratepayer's Association for four years. She also served on the Port Colborne-Wainfleet Healthy Lifestyles Coalition.

Ald. David Wyatt: David and his wife, Terry, along with their two children, have

lived in Wainfleet for more than 10 years. David is a certified financial planner and senior advisor with Investor's Group. He has served as a member of the Official Plan committee and brought a fresh perspective to the Wainfleet Agricultural Society when he signed on as the president of the Fall Fair five years ago.

I am very excited to work with my fellow alderman.

We are a diverse group of individuals and I am confident we will bring a multitude of ideas to the table. I look forward to working together to move

Wainfleet in a new direction over the next four years.

On behalf of council, I would like to thank our community for their support during the election and welcome everyone to attend our inaugural council meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 7 starting at 7 p.m. in council chambers.

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Editor's note: Wainfleet Mayor April Jeffs will be providing InPort with a column every two months to keep Wainfleet residents up to date on what's happening in the township.

Announcement



David Barrick, B.A. (Hon), R.I.B.O.

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ENVIRONMENT



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Environmentalist Geoff Green takes questions from St. Therese Catholic Elementary School students Karmen Rutter, Maddie Wilcox and Lakeshore Catholic High School student Rudder Zhang shortly after his presentation at the Port Colborne high school.

Eco-clubs make the grade with Green

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Geoff Green lives true to his name.

The Canadian environmentalist paid a visit to Lakeshore Catholic High School recently where he spoke to eco-club members from each of the Niagara Catholic District School Board's 60 schools.

The event, which included an awards ceremony, was held to culminate work each school has done to earn certification through the Ontario EcoSchools program. Niagara Catholic is the first school board in Ontario to have each of its schools reach EcoSchool certification.

Green told the crowd of more than 650 students that they're already making a difference in the environment by taking on important tasks such as conservation and waste reduction through the eco-clubs at their schools.

During his presentation, Green, who's led more than 100 expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctic, shared stories and photos of his adventures learning about biodiversity around the world. He said he loves sharing his "passion for the planet" with young budding minds by taking them "on a journey from one end of the Earth to the other."

Green is the founder of Students on Ice, a program that has brought more than 1,700 youth to the Arctic and Antarctic over the past 11 years. The program, he said,

is meant to help youth "gain a greater understanding and respect for the natural world."

Through his work, he hopes to help youth "gain a deeper appreciation" for the planet's global ecosystem and an understanding of the importance of protecting it.

If proper environmental ethics are instilled in youth, they'll take those ethics on to the next stage of life, he said.

Having a room packed to the brim with students who concern themselves with the environment, "gives cause for hope," Green said shortly after the presentation.

"I'm as inspired by them as they hopefully were by me," he said with a smile.

As someone who's been on countless expeditions during his lifetime, Green was able to provide the audience with a "realistic view" of life as an environmentalist, said Grade 12 Lakeshore student Rudder Zhang.

He said he was appreciative that Green provided information on what youth themselves can do to both help the environment and to get involved with initiatives such as Students on Ice.

As a member of Lakeshore's eco-team, Zhang said the school has taught him and his peers to be stewards of the environment.

"Even though we're the young generation now, we won't always be," he said, adding it's important to learn to care for the Earth early on.

■ **WEATHER:** Author has been watching animals

Furry friends suggest mild winter in store

ALLAN BENNER
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — It's going to be a warm, mild winter, says Erno Rossi.

No, he's not a meteorologist. But the author and retired high school teacher knows some unusual weather forecasters who have consistently made long-term predictions he feels he can rely on.

In his many years of watching wildlife, including bears, rabbits and beavers, Rossi has noticed the animals behave differently depending on the severity of the winter to come. When a severe winter is approaching, they're extremely busy fattening themselves up and storing food to last them through the cold months ahead.

In the months prior to a mild winter, Rossi said the animals seem to have a lot more time for "playing" — and that's what he's watched them doing this fall.

He's watched a family of usually busy beavers living on property he owns in Wainfleet. Based on their behaviour this fall, the beavers he's named Becky and Bucky don't seem very concerned about the coming winter.

"They weren't doing hardly anything for the winter," he said. "They seem to sense when it's really necessary and when it's not."

He observed the same sort of behaviour amongst snow-shoe rabbits and brown bears during a hunting trip in northern Ontario in October. He said the bears were out wandering around as if they were "looking for someone to party," rather than preparing for a long winter sleep.

"Normally at that time of year, you're walking around through snow up there and it's cold as hell," he said. "This year, we were running into moose hunters that were suffering from heat stroke and running into mosquitoes. I could just



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

Author Erno Rossi looks across Gravelly Bay at about 200 tundra swans that have made their annual stop in Port Colborne on their way to warmer climes in the southeastern U.S. Their arrival time, combined with the behaviour of wild animals he's observed, leads Rossi to believe this could be another mild winter.

hear Bullwinkle saying, 'Ha ha ha, it looks good on you.' In the months leading up to last year's very mild winter, Rossi said the animals were goofing

off instead of working then, too.

"I've been following this stuff for years, but I never say anything about it because it's

kind of eccentric to go and make a prediction based on animal behaviour," he said. "Last winter it was the exact same thing that preceded it, and we had a very mild winter last year with very little snow."

Last year was a short-lived winter too, he added. By the time March arrived, "people were out in their gardens saying, 'Where are the ice storms and blizzards?'"

The tundra swans, too, can predict the weather. The swans stop in Port Colborne's Gravelly Bay on their long trip between the Arctic and the warm southeastern U.S. Rossi said at least 200 of the black and white birds arrived in the water near his home just recently.

"They're two weeks late in arriving here, so it implies me that wherever they are in the Arctic, it wasn't cold enough to push them out earlier. It's just part of the whole pattern."

The critics aren't the only ones predicting a mild winter.

The real meteorologists seem to agree with the predictions being made by Rossi's furry forecasters.

"The upcoming winter could be a little milder than normal," said Environment Canada meteorologist Geoff Coulson, referring to the long-term forecast for December to February. But that doesn't mean that every day in the months ahead is going to have very mild temperatures, he added.

"When we average out those temperatures on a month-by-month basis, we're expecting them to be a little warmer than the long-term normal," he said.

A mild winter is not a prediction Rossi is all that happy about — at least when it comes to book sales.

Rossi said his book *White Desch: The Blizzard of '77* usually sells a lot of copies when there's a lot of snow falling, along with grim predictions of blizzards that could even be worse than the one he wrote about.

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inPortbriefs

ROAD CLOSED

PORT COLBORNE—Main St. W. will be closed for nearly five days as Trillium Railway rebuilds a weir crossing. A release from Niagara Region says the road, which is also Hwy. 3 through the city, will close Thursday, Nov. 25, at 12 p.m. and re-open on Monday, Nov. 29.

at 6 a.m. The section of Main St. West to be closed is between King St. and Canal Bank Rd. Trillium Railway will be rebuilding its railway crossing on the street on the west side of the weir bridge. There will be no vehicle access through the area, including emergency vehicles.

COATS STILL NEEDED

The annual Coats for Kids and Families program continues until Dec. 15. The goal of the program is

to collect new or gently used winter coats and then redistribute them to those in need. If coats need to be cleaned, they can be dropped off at the following locations: Nick's Cleaners, Highlanders Cleaners and 'tazzy Dry Cleaners and Quick Stitch in Welland. Lighthouse's Cleaners in Port Colborne and Quality Cleaners in Pelham. People who need a coat can visit The Hope Centre in Welland or Port Cares in Port Colborne.

DONATION



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Port Colborne Ward 2 Coun. Dominic Ursini donated \$1,600 to Royal Canadian Legion Branch 56 in Port Colborne, represented by Joe Nagy, to assist with facility improvements. Ursini, who was opposed to a pay increase council received this term, has annually donated the increase to various groups within the community. Focusing on the support of both youth and veteran initiatives, Ursini collected input from the people of Ward 2 to decide where the funds should be allocated.

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DAVE JOHNSON
Staff Photo
Transport trucks
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were unloading
at Goderich
Elevators in
Port Colborne
recently. Trucks
were lined up
at the end of King
St. to get into
the elevator,
which sits at the
entrance to the
Welland Canal
beside ADM
Milling.

COUNCIL

Stormwater plan all wet for some Port Colborne councillors

KAESHA FORAND
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — As the Oldie Huronstone Village housing development moves forward so do concerns about stormwater management and its impact on the Lock 8 area community.

Quartek Group Inc. planner Dan Romano and engineer Doug Peters addressed city councillors recently and provided details for its 86-unit subdivision to be built on 4.4 hectares of land on 'the island' between the Welland and weir canals, nearby the fire department headquarters.

The proposed development would feature 17 single homes, 16 semi-detached homes and 55 townhouses. Developers have incorporated a nautical theme in keeping with Port Colborne's marine heritage.

A stormwater management pond would feature indigenous plants and naturalized

vegetation. As examples, slides were shown to councillors of the Niagara-on-the-Lake housing development opposite Niagara College's Niagara-on-the-Lake campus illustrating pictures a dry pond with green plants.

"The ponds provide an aesthetic feature — well that's in the eye of the beholder," said Ward 3 Coun. Gary Bruno, who had concerns with plans. "Who is responsible for the maintenance?"

Romano said the municipality is typically responsible for pond maintenance once a development is complete.

Bruno said he was "not supportive of this development with the retention pond facing Mellanby Ave."

Ward 3 Coun. Ben Kenny also had an uneasy feeling after seeing pictures of the Niagara-on-the-Lake pond.

"I don't like it and you shouldn't have showed me pictures," said the project

would probably be phased in two stages based on market interest. Servicing, road and sidewalk construction, property maintenance between the phases and the location of a central mailbox system were also discussed.

The public meeting only drew one public comment — from Amelia St. resident Paul Kelly, who is concerned with the quiet island surrounding Mellanby Ave. and Port Colborne Dr. being transformed into suburbia.

"This area is cottage-looking and this looks like suburbia. Our house values will plummet, I don't think it's a good idea."

He also disagreed with Quartek's estimation there would be about 250 residents in the 86-unit development.

Staff will draft a report regarding the project to be presented at an upcoming meeting.

kforand@wellandtribune.ca

■ APPRECIATION: Residents thank outgoing regional councillor



DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

Regional Coun. Bob Saracino was thanked for his years of service to seniors at Northland Pointe on Wednesday. Saracino was presented with a photo of himself signed by staff and residents at the regional long-term care facility in Port Colborne. Making the presentation are Northland Pointe auxiliary member Sybil Hanna, administrator Joy Misztal, Saracino and residents Elizabeth Bagu and Jackie Huffman.

Saracino felt obligated to help out

DAVE JOHNSON
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — "Uncle Bob," as Bob Saracino is known to Northland Pointe residents, was thanked at the long-term care home last Wednesday for all his help fighting for seniors over the years.

Saracino, a politician for the past 36 years, last month lost his regional council seat to David Rickard. Dominic Ventresca, director of Niagara Region's seniors services, said Saracino has always worked on behalf of seniors and fought to get more beds at Northland Pointe into the future.

"For a community its size, Port Colborne has more than its share of long-term care beds," he said.

He said when the facility was known as Northland Manor, on Northland Ave., there were 87 beds. Northland Pointe now has 150 beds.

"Bob was one of the people who pushed for more beds."

Ventresca said Saracino's

departure from politics shouldn't be the end of his journey, it should just be another stage in that journey. He hopes Saracino, who also served as alderman and mayor in Port Colborne, will continue to be a part of Northland Pointe into the future.

Sybil Hanna, of the Northland Pointe auxiliary, said when the new facility was being built she and Saracino teased each other about having a penthouse suite built for when they retired.

"We really appreciate everything Bob has done here and

done for the auxiliary. We are going to miss him."

Saracino thanked everyone at the home and said it was a very nostalgic day for him.

"I felt obligated to help out and hope I didn't let you down. I have fond memories here."

Even though he wasn't reelected, Saracino said he'll continue to serve people in some capacity.

"Seniors and health care are very important to me. I'll help the community any way I can. People have been my love for 36 years."

djohnson@wellandtribune.ca

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GATORS LOSE GOLDEN HORSESHOE BOWL



JOHN VESSOYAN Staff Photos

Above, Lakeshore Catholic Gators quarterback Brandon Legault throws the ball before being tackled by Notre Dame Fighting Irish player Jordan Thompson during the Golden Horseshoe Bowl final at the Rogers Centre in Toronto Nov. 24. The Gators fell to the Burlington school 16-14. Below, Gators Jesse House (66) and Keaton Spratt (25) leave the Rogers Centre field after the loss.



■ DISTRACTED DRIVING: Keep hands on the wheel and off cellphones

Teens pledge to not text and drive

MARYANNE FIRTH
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — It could save your life.

Students in Port Colborne High School's Speak Up Crew made a simple request of their peers on Thursday — to leave their cellphones alone while driving.

Waiting to answer a phone call or text message could be the difference between life or death.

In hopes of getting that intense message across, the students held a schoolwide assembly on road safety.

This was the first assembly held by Port High's Speak Up Crew — a group of students who hope to gather input from their peers to help implement positive change at the school. The crew has set its sights on providing information and support in five key areas this year: mental health, healthy relationships, drug and alcohol abuse, bullying and harassment, and road safety.

Last Thursday's assembly was held in conjunction with National Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims, recognized annually on Nov. 17. The day is set aside "to remember those killed or seriously injured on Canadian roads ... and those left to deal with the sudden and unexpected



MARYANNE FIRTH Staff Photo

Tabitha Tonnies, a member of Port Colborne High School's Speak Up Crew, signs a banner pledging to not use her cellphone while driving. Hundreds of students from Welland Centennial Secondary School and Port High have signed the banner in hopes of reducing distracted driving incidents.

loss of people they love," Tonnies told the crowd.

A moment of silence was held in memory of people whose lives have been lost as the result of a crash.

"The good news is that we can save lives," Tonnies said, adding through increased enforcement and changes in driver behaviour, lives are being saved every day.

Students were asked to sign a banner, pledging that

they will leave their phone alone while driving. The banner, which has already been signed by hundreds of Centennial Secondary School students, will be at Port High collecting signatures for the next few days.

People wishing to commit their support to the campaign can take the pledge online at www.leaveitp-honealone.ca.

mfirth@wellandtribune.ca

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CITY HALL NEWS

A Newsletter written by Staff for the Residents of Port Colborne

DECEMBER 2010

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Remember when Christmas was a time of wonder? When you braved the cold between the shops with an armload of unique gifts? Bumping into folks you hadn't seen forever ... being good, for goodness sake?

With joyful sights, sounds and aromas, there is a lot to do and see in December in our city, as well as plenty of shopping downtown Port Colborne. Offering an exciting place to find that something special, downtown Port Colborne provides personal service and endless options for meaningful and unique gifts.

While it is the season of holiday tunes, Santa Claus and the search for the perfect gifts, this is the time when the Port Colborne community celebrates a long tradition of family outings and invites everyone to join a season full of holiday events including:

DECEMBER 3

Food and Wine at Roselawn

A Spectacular five course gourmet meal in the Roselawn Dining Room featuring Lakeview Cellars; \$85 per person 6:30 p.m.

For more information call the Roselawn Box office at 905-834-7572 or visit www.portcolborne.ca

DECEMBER 4

Breakfast with Santa

Seating's at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. for a pancake breakfast, including coffee or juice and a visit with Santa at the Lion's Hall. Tickets are \$6 and can be purchased at Tuck's Jewelers or from a Lionsess member.

Santa Arrives Downtown by Tugboat at 1 p.m.

Experience a tradition unique to our city as Santa arrives in Port Colborne - on the deck of a tugboat in the Welland Canal. The festive spirit continues throughout the day as you stroll historic downtown letting the holiday music and charming shops entertain you.

Have your child's photo taken with Santa from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. by photographer Precious LaPlante for a small fee, free hot chocolate and goodies.

For more information visit www.DowntownPortColborne.com

ALSO ON DECEMBER 4

Port Colborne's Annual Lighted

Santa Claus Parade

Watch as the streets are illuminated by the annual Port Colborne Santa Claus Parade, highlighting the joy and love of Christmas for children of all ages. Beginning at 6:30 p.m., the parade will start at Port Colborne High School and travel south on Steele Street to Clarence Street where it continues east along Clarence Street to West Street. Making its way south on West Street to Charlotte Street, the parade will then travel west on Charlotte Street to end in the Market Square, in front of City Hall. Children are welcome to visit with Santa in the lobby of City Hall and enjoy hot chocolate and Timbits.

For more information please call Allaina Kane at 905-834-1668 or visit www.portcolborne.ca

DECEMBER 5

Grand Old Christmas Festival

On December 5, Step back into time and discover the magic of A Grand Old Christmas Festival at the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum. Noon to 5 p.m. Enjoy Christmas music, hot apple cider and roasted chestnuts as children have their photo taken with Santa. Experience a true traditional treat - visit Arabella's Tea Room for a hot cup of tea and Christmas pudding. For more information call 905-834-7604 or www.portcolborne.ca

DECEMBER 6 - 11

Pudding and Sauce Week

at Arabella's Tea Room

Arabella's Tea Room is serving Christmas pudding and sauce all week. Located at the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum, for more information call 905-834-7604.

take Centre Stage in PORT COLBORNE!

DECEMBER 24 - JANUARY 9

Holiday Skating at West Side Arena and Tedder Kennedy Arena

See page 3 or visit www.portcolborne.ca for the full schedule of dates and times.

DECEMBER 26

Boxing Week Sales Begin

Downtown Port Colborne - Individual shop hours and days of operation may vary.

Visit www.DowntownPortColborne.com for more information.

DECEMBER 31

Casco and Friends Kidz

New Years Eve Carnival

At the end of the month, celebrate the upcoming New Year with the Casco and Friends Kidz New Year's Eve Carnival from 2 to 6 p.m. December 31 at West Side Arena, followed by a fireworks display.

Port Colborne Hospital Foundation "Ribbon of Lights"

Throughout the holiday season donations can be made to the Hospital Foundation's "Ribbon of Lights". Each lightstar that is illuminated on the "Ribbon of Lights" is made in memory of loved ones or in honour of someone special. The names of the donors and those being memorialized are published in the Tribune and Niagara This Week.

Come join us, share our Christmas spirit.

For more information please contact Erin Pozzobon, Marketing and Tourism Coordinator at 905-834-1668 ext. 233 or email at erinpozzebon@portcolborne.ca or Allaina Kane, Special Events Coordinator at 905-834-1668 ext. 233 or email at allainakane@portcolborne.ca



A Community Christmas....

The City of Port Colborne wishes to invite you to continue our strong tradition of a Community Christmas.

*Christmas is a time of wonder...
Bringing the cold between the shops with an
air of "perfect gifts".*

*Bumping into folks you hadn't seen for quite
some time... being good for goodness sake.*

*Take the time for yourself, your family and friends
and support each other throughout this wonderful time
of year...support our local businesses as they support
our community year round.*

On behalf of Members of City Council and Staff, may I offer you
and yours best wishes throughout the Holiday Season.



NAZAR VANCE RADANJEV

PORT COLBORNE museum

ORNAMENTS OF SOCIETY - A WINTER EXHIBIT

Visit the Williams House from mid-November until December 20 to see this year's winter exhibit. Feast your eyes on some of the more decorative and luxurious items in the Museum's collection. As you try to stay warm and cozy over the next few months, remember these treasured objects that were lovingly displayed and used in parlours, kitchens and bedrooms of the past. As Christmas approaches, enjoy viewing the creativity and beauty of ornaments from around the world. See examples from the Orient to the Caribbean. Included in these holiday trimmings are traditional decorations from England, Ireland, Germany and more. These ornaments represent the people who built the community of Port Colborne and surrounding areas who brought pieces of their heritage with them.



PORT COLBORNE Holiday Photo CONTEST

The holidays are a season of warmth, generosity and hospitality and Christmas means many things to many people. What does it mean to you?

The City of Port Colborne is now accepting entries for its 2nd Annual Holiday Photo Contest. This year's theme is Christmas in Port Colborne, with the images portraying "There's no place like home for the Holidays."

The contest is open to residents and visitors to Port Colborne and photographers of all ages and abilities are invited to submit entries. Photo contest submissions are being accepted until January 5, 2011. Up to five photographs may be submitted per person. There is no entry fee, however, pictures submitted must be high-resolution, digital format and by submitting, entrants give the City of Port Colborne permission to use the photos for promotional purposes.

TIPS FOR PHOTO SUBMISSIONS:

- Photos can be of any location in Port Colborne
- Great submissions include:
 - Holiday Decorations - showcase the beautiful outdoor scenery including the holiday lights and displays

- Festivals and Events - Christmas carolling, parades, Grand Old Christmas Festival, etc.
- The Special Moments of Christmas - Santa's arrival, the hustle and bustle of shoppers, etc.
- Faces of Christmas - catch the reaction of children and adults to the holiday events happening around them
- Set your camera on the highest size resolution to send us the best quality photo
- Avoid sending blurry, unclear or small photos
- People in the photo must have consented to their picture being taken, or not be recognizable (in the background)
- Complete contest rules, information and entry forms can be found on the City of Port Colborne website at www.portcolborne.ca

In January the winning photo will be selected and featured on the Port Colborne website and other print marketing produced for the City of Port Colborne. As well, the winner of the contest will receive a \$100 gift card for 827 Restaurant, one of Niagara's favourite casual fine dining experiences, right here in Port Colborne, on the Welland Canal.

Share the joys of the holidays and help us celebrate this special time of year.

For more information please contact Erin Pozzebon, Marketing and Tourism Coordinator at 905-834-1668 ext. 233 or email at erinpozzebon@portcolborne.ca

On behalf of all City of Port Colborne staff, I wish a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your families.

HAVE A WONDERFUL AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON!

Sincerely,
ROBERT J. WEIL
Chief Administrative Officer

GRAND OLD CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 12 TO 4 PM



Bring your family and friends for traditional winter fun in an historical setting. Join the Museum's Heritage Village where you can visit with our blacksmith interpreters and whisper in Santa's ear beside a crackling fireplace. Try your hand at candle dipping in the Sherk Log House. Print a souvenir bookmark on a heritage press. Participate in old-fashioned log sawing (no snoring allowed!) and take your wooden "cookie" to the blacksmith to have it branded. Visit the L.R. Wilson Archives to enjoy Christmas music, take a chance at winning our Festival Door Prize, and Christmas shop for the bookworms in your life. While you're there, learn about Arabella Williams who once lived in the Museum house. Melinda Mitterhauser will bring one of Port Colborne's grand ladies of the 19th century to life. Sample hot apple cider, roasted chestnuts, apples dipped in warm caramel sauce and more. Take a ride around the block by horse and carriage. After you've experienced Joan Frost's nip in the air, warm up with a cup of tea and Christmas pudding in Arabella's Edwardian Tea Room. Discover artifacts from the Museum's collection that reflect our society's love of treasured objects in our winter exhibit entitled Ornaments of Society. Also on display are Christmas ornaments from days gone by and many that were brought to Port Colborne from countries all over the world. And PS... Don't miss cheering on our New Steem Buggy Replica in this year's Santa Clause Parade on the evening of Saturday, December 4!

BOOK LAUNCH

What makes Port Colborne such a vibrant, caring community? Its people, of course! Museum volunteer and former freelance journalist, Joan Scapillato, chronicled the lives of many interesting people in Port Colborne in the local newspaper for almost twenty years. Now, with the assistance of her son Tim Scapillato and museum staff, some of those articles dating from 1990 onwards have been compiled into Port People: Builders and Shapers of our Culture and Community. On December 5, as part of our Grand Old Christmas, the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum is very pleased and excited to launch Port People by Joan Scapillato. From talented entertainers to dedicated volunteers, from prominent figures to those with interesting stories to tell, Port People features just the sort of individuals that make Port Colborne special. During the Grand Old Christmas Celebration, Joan will be in the L.R. Wilson Heritage Archives to sign copies of her book, which will be available for sale for \$15 (tax included). Thanks to Joan Scapillato's generosity all proceeds from the sales of Port People will go to the Port Colborne Museum.



December 6 – December 11 Shopper's Week Special at Arabella's Tea Room. Volunteers will be on hand to give you a rest from your Christmas shopping in Port Colborne's many fine stores. 2-4 p.m. daily.

PORT COLBORNE
Mayor's New Years Eve
SUNDAY, JANUARY 9TH + 1-4 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
66 Charlotte Street
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Everyone Welcome!

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Great Gift Ideas FOR CHRISTMAS!

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E-mail: pool@portcolborne.ca

SATURDAY, DEC. 25, 2010 CLOSED

SUNDAY, DEC. 26, 2010 CLOSED

MONDAY, DEC. 27, 2010

6:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Lengths
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	AquaJog
11:00 - 12:30 p.m.	Adults Only
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Family
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Public
6:30 - 7:45 p.m.	Public
7:45 - 8:30 p.m.	Adults Only
8:30 - 9:15 p.m.	AquaFit

TUESDAY, DEC. 28, 2010

6:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Lengths
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	AquaJog
10:45 - 11:30 a.m.	AquaFit
11:30 - 12:30 p.m.	Adults Only
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Family
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Public
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Public

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29, 2010

6:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Lengths
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	AquaJog
11:00 - 12:30 p.m.	Adults Only
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Family
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Public
6:30 - 7:45 p.m.	Public
7:45 - 8:30 p.m.	Adults Only
8:30 - 9:15 p.m.	AquaFit

THURSDAY, DEC. 30, 2010

6:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Lengths
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	AquaJog
10:45 - 11:30 a.m.	AquaFit
11:30 - 12:30 p.m.	Adults Only
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Family
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Public
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Public

FRIDAY, DEC. 31, 2010

6:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Lengths
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	AquaJog
11:00 - 12:30 p.m.	Adults Only
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Family
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Public
POOL CLOSED AT 2:30 p.m.	

Happy New Year!

SATURDAY, JAN. 1, 2011 CLOSED

SUNDAY, JAN. 2, 2011

11:30 - 12:30 p.m.	Adults Only
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Family
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Public
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Public

MONDAY, JAN. 3, 2011

6:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Lengths
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	AquaJog
11:00 - 12:30 p.m.	Adults Only
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Family
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Public
6:30 - 7:45 p.m.	Public
7:45 - 8:30 p.m.	Adults Only
8:30 - 9:15 p.m.	AquaFit

TUESDAY, JAN. 4, 2011

6:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Lengths
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	AquaFit
10:45 - 11:30 a.m.	AquaFit
11:30 - 12:30 a.m.	Adults Only
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Family
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Public
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Public

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 5, 2011

6:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Lengths
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	AquaJog
11:00 - 12:30 a.m.	Adults Only
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Family
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Public
6:30 - 7:45 p.m.	Public
7:45 - 8:30 p.m.	Adults Only
8:30 - 9:15 p.m.	AquaFit

THURSDAY, JAN. 6, 2011

6:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Lengths
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	AquaFit
10:45 - 11:30 a.m.	AquaFit
11:30 - 12:30 p.m.	Adults Only
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Family
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Public
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Public

FRIDAY, JAN. 7, 2011

6:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Lengths
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	AquaJog
11:00 - 12:30 p.m.	Adults Only
12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Family
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.	Public
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Public

Regular Schedule Continues Sat. Jan. 8, 2011

CITY OF PORT COLBORNE

Holiday Skating at West Side Arena and Teeder Kennedy Arena

2010 - 2011

FRIDAY DECEMBER 17, 2010

Youth Skate 9:00 - 10:30 p.m. (Free)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2010

Christmas Eve Both Arenas Close at 4:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2010

Christmas Day (Merry Christmas) Both Arenas Closed all day

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2010

Boxing Day Both Arenas Closed all day

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2010

Public Skating West Arena 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2010

TIM SKATE Youth Arena 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. (Free)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2010

Tots & Adults West Arena 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.
Tots & Adults Youth Arena 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
TIM SKATE West Arena 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. (Free)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30, 2010

Public Skating Youth Arena 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2010

New Year's Eve (Happy New Year)
Play-as-you-Play West Arena 8:15 to 9:40 a.m.
Seniors & Adults West Arena 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Seniors Play-as-you-Play West Arena 11:10 to 12:00 noon
Cascos Kidz Carnival West Arena 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. (Free)
Youth Arena Closed at 4:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2011

New Year's Day Both Arenas Closed all day

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 2010

Family & Public Skate West Arena 12:00 to 2:30 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2010

Public Skate West Arena 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2011

TIM SKATE West Arena 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. (Free)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2010

Tots & Adults West Arena 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Tots & Adults Youth Arena 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 2011

Play-as-you-Play West Arena 8:15 to 9:40 a.m.
Seniors & Adults West Arena 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Seniors Play-as-you-Play West Arena 11:10 to 12:00 noon
Public Skate West Arena 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Teen Skate West Arena 9:00 to 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2010

TIM SKATE Youth Arena 7:30 to 8:50 p.m. (Free)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 9, 2010

Family & Public Skate West Arena 12:00 to 2:30 p.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

West Arena, 54 West Side Road, 905-835-8732
Teeder Kennedy Youth Arena, 550 Elizabeth Street,
905-835-1771

• Christmas Break 2010 Swim Schedule •

Upcoming Events

Roselawn
centre for the living arts
experience it!



Food & Wine

Friday February 4/11 - 6:30 p.m.
featuring Southbrook Winery
\$85.00 pp inclusive

Ladies Night

Thursday February 10/11

Market Place/Dessert/Wine/Door Prizes/Tarot Card Readings
Tickets \$25.00

Food & Wine

Friday March 4/11 - 6:30 p.m.
featuring Fresh
\$85.00 pp inclusive

The Rocky Road To Dublin

Saturday March 12/11 - 8 p.m.
Tickets \$20.00

The Rocky Road To Dublin tells the story of lifelong friends who return to Ireland on a special mission: to say goodbye to their close friend as they retrace the steps of their youthful busking adventures.

From singing on the street corner to exchanging their songs and stories for the occasional pint in a local pub, The Rocky Road To Dublin is a celebration of Irish music and humour.

Featuring over 20 classic Irish songs (plus several soon to be classics!) both hilarious and touching, and performed on guitar, banjo, piano, mandolin, accordion and tin whistle.

A show for all ages full of warmth, laughs and wonderful music.

ROSELAWN CENTRE SHOWBOAT FESTIVAL THEATRE

296 Fielden Ave

Port Colborne, ON L3K 4T6

905-834-7572 Voice • 905-834-2072 Fax

www.showboattheatre.ca • www.portcolborne.ca

e-mail: suspatterson@portcolborne.ca



CANDLES

Keep Candles Out Of The Reach Of Children And Pets!

Remember to snuff out your candles if you are leaving the room or going to bed!

Become A Snow Buddie!

WHY VOLUNTEER?

- Have fun • Develop communication skills
- Build self-esteem • Gain work experience
- Receive community service hours
- Obtain volunteer experience to add to your resume
- Meet new people • Make a difference

DID YOU KNOW?

- 1 in 3 seniors fall each year
- 20% of senior's injury-related deaths can be traced back to a fall
- Seniors are injured at home more than any other location

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP OUT IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD?

Community Support Services of Niagara
Ask for Laurie
905-662-3800, ext. 28
lelliott@cssn.on.ca • www.cssn.on.ca



You Can
Be A



SNOW BUDDIE

DO YOU WANT TO:

meet new people?
make a difference?
receive community service hours?

Laurie Elliott-Leach

Community Support Services of Niagara
905-662-3800 ext. 28

Or

Joanne Ferrecioli

City of Port Colborne 905-835-2900 ext. 130

CITY OF PORT COLBORNE - PUBLIC NOTICE

NO PARKING INTERFERING WITH SNOW REMOVAL ON ALL HIGHWAYS

OWNERS of vehicles within the City of Port Colborne are hereby reminded of the provisions of the Highway Traffic Act and By-law No. 89-2000 which regulates parking and traffic on city roads.

No person shall park or stand a vehicle on a highway in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic or the clearing of snow from the highway.

Upon discovery of any vehicle parked or standing in contravention of the above mentioned, an officer may cause it to be moved or taken to and placed or stored in a suitable place and all costs and charges for removing, care and storage thereof, if any, are a lien upon the vehicle, which may be enforced in the manner provided by the Repair and Storage Liens Act.

Your co-operation in complying with these provisions would be appreciated and would avoid the use of the enforcement provisions of the By-law/Act.

Vehicle – "includes a motor vehicle, trailer, traction engine, farm tractor, road-building machine and any vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by and kind of power, including muscular power, but does not include a motorized snow vehicle or a street car"

Large Motor Vehicle – "means a commercial motor vehicle, bus, school bus, boat, boat trailer, or mobile home"

Highway – "includes a common and public highway, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place, bridge, viaduct or trestle, any part of which is intended for or used by the general public for the passage of vehicles and includes the area between the lateral property lines thereof."



PORT COLBORNE

CITY OF PORT COLBORNE

NOTICE



PORT COLBORNE

The City of Port Colborne at the Council Meeting dated September 13th, passed a new Site Alteration By-law # 5528/125/10

The By-law regulates and prohibits the removal of topsoil, the placing or dumping of fill and the alteration of the grade of land.

Applications and Permits are required before altering the property. Control Plans may also be required. However, there are exemptions, such as any work where soil is placed or dumped on lands for the purpose of lawn dressing, landscaping or adding to flower beds or vegetable gardens, provided that the ground elevation of the lands is not increased by more than 200mm (8") and there is no change in the

direction, rate or quality of run-off to neighbouring properties.

To review the new Site Alteration By-law, please visit our web page at: <http://www.portcolborne.ca/page/Most+Frequently+Requested+Byla> or you can obtain a copy from the Planning and Development Department which is located on the 2nd floor of City Hall.

Any questions concerning the new By-law, please feel free to contact the By-law Enforcement Division at 905-835-2900.

Dan Aquilina
Director of Planning and Development

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT PLANS & NEW OFFICIAL PLAN CONSTRUCTION ONGOING...BUSINESSES ARE OPEN!

Olde Humbershore Main Street Area Community Improvement Plan

The revitalization of Main Street is well underway. Construction began in late July, asphalt should be completed by the beginning of December and the final details such as landscaping and street furniture will be installed throughout December. Main Street and all Businesses along it will remain open throughout the duration of construction. Any questions regarding the construction works along Main Street can be directed to Jim Huppenen, Manager of Engineering Services at jimhuppenen@portcolborne.ca or 905-835-2901 ext 221.

With the creation of the Port Colborne Gateway Business Improvement Area encompassing the Olde Humbershore Main Street Area, the City is now accepting applications for the Community Improvement Plan Financial Incentive Programs. The Application and Incentive program information is available online at www.portcolborne.ca/page/Main+Street+CP+or+at+City+Hall. Please contact Lindsay Richardson, Community/Policy Planner at lindsayrichardson@portcolborne.ca or 905-835-2901 ext 129 to make an application or for more information on the available funding opportunities.

Downtown Central Business District Community Improvement Plan, Urban Design Guidelines, Streetscape Plan and Traffic Study

The Community Improvement Plan for the Downtown Central Business District is complete! Copies of the final documents including the Community Improvement Plan, Traffic Impact Study for West Street and Urban Design Guidelines are available on the City's website at www.portcolborne.ca/page/Downtown+CBD. CP. With recent funding approval totaling \$100,000.00 from the South Niagara Community Futures Development Fund, the City will be issuing a Request for Proposal (RFP) to create detailed design drawings of targeted areas in order to begin streetscape improvements within the Downtown Central Business District. For information on the Downtown CP or to make application for funding under the incentive plans available, please contact: Lindsay Richardson at lindsayrichardson@portcolborne.ca or 905-835-2901 ext 129.

Brownfield Strategy/Community Improvement Plan

The Brownfield Strategy and Community Improvement Plan is complete. Brownfields are abandoned, idled or underused industrial and commercial properties where redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. The CP outlines specific municipal programs and actions designed to encourage private sector investment in cleaning up and redeveloping brownfield sites. This will help to improve the environmental, economic and social conditions in employment areas and neighborhoods in Port Colborne. Program Guides for each of the incentive programs as well as a copy of the full Strategy and Community Improvement Plan is available on the City website at www.portcolborne.ca/page/brownfields, CP for review. For information on the Brownfield CP or to make application for funding under the incentive plans available, please contact: Lindsay Richardson at lindsayrichardson@portcolborne.ca or 905-835-2901 ext 129.

The City of Port Colborne New Official Plan (Adopted 2006)

In 2006, City Council adopted the City of Port Colborne New Official Plan. The Region of Niagara, as the final approval authority for Official Plans, has not yet formally approved the 2006 Official Plan. Since 2006, there have been a number of changes to the provincial and regional policies to which the City's Official Plan is required to comply. Planning Staff has worked to revise, update and improve the adopted "New Official Plan" in order to incorporate these changes and move forward with Regional approval. An open house will be held in the near future to present the changes needed to the Official Plan for public review and comment. The City of Port Colborne Official Plan will be a comprehensive document representing the planning goals for the municipality and identifying where and how the City will grow over the next 25 years. For information on the Official Plan and the proposed changes, please contact: Lindsay Richardson at lindsayrichardson@portcolborne.ca or 905-835-2901 ext 129.

PUBLIC NOTICE

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE/COUNCIL MEETING FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

One meeting will be held on Monday, December 13th, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall Council Chambers, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne.

The Inaugural meeting of Council will be held Monday, December 6th, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. City Hall Council Chambers, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne.

FREE METERED PARKING FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

To promote and encourage shopping in the downtown core and at the Port Colborne Farmers' Market, motorists may park free at any meter in Port Colborne for the month of December.

PLEASE NOTE: All other parking infractions will be strictly enforced.

- Parking in handicapped zones without a permit
- Parking in fire routes
- Parking in prohibited areas (loading zones, corner restrictions)
- Parking blocking a driveway
- Parking over the time limit in 1 and 2 hour zones etc.

CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR HOLIDAY CLOSING

Please be advised that City Hall will close for the holiday season on Friday, December 24th, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. and will reopen at 8:30 a.m. on Monday, January 3rd, 2011.

The City Works / Parks Yard will be closed December 27th and 28th, 2010 for Christmas Day and Boxing Day and December 31st, 2010 for New Year's Day.

Emergency calls throughout the closure will be handled in the usual fashion by calling 835-5079 (24 hour service).

FARMERS' MARKET

During the month of December, the Farmers' Market will be held from 6:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- Friday, December 3, 2010
- Friday, December 10, 2010
- Friday, December 17, 2010
- Friday, December 24, 2010

Commencing January 7th, 2011, the Market will be held on that day and every Friday thereafter from 6:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Ashley Grigg, City Clerk



Your chart will be kept private. (Confidential and FREE.) You do not need a Health Card.

HEALTH BUS WINTER SCHEDULE – November 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	
Niagara Falls (afternoon & evening)	Welland (day)	Port Colborne (day)	Beamsville (afternoon)	St. Catharines (morning)
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	1:00 to 3:30 p.m.	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
PROJECT SHARE	WELLAND PUBLIC HEALTH	PORT CARES	BEAMSVILLE COMMUNITY CARE	ST. CATHARINES HOUSING HELP
4129 Stanley Ave., Unit 2 Niagara Falls	200 Division St. Welland	92 Charlotte St. at the Early Years Centre entrance Port Colborne	4309 Central Ave. Beamsville	14 North Street, St. Catharines
ELAINE HARVEY 905-357-5121	905-735-5697	LINDA REINHART 905-834-3629	CHERYL SCOTT 905-563-5822	CATHERINE LIVINGSTON 905-984-8955
4:30 to 7:30 p.m.	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.	1:00 to 4:00 p.m.	St. Catharines (evening)	Fort Erie (afternoon)
OUT OF THE COLD	WELLAND PUBLIC HEALTH	PORT CARES	4:30 to 7:30 p.m.	1:00 to 3:30 p.m.
Community of Christ Church 4865 St Lawrence Ave. Niagara Falls	200 Division St. Welland	92 Charlotte St. at the Early Years Centre entrance Port Colborne	St. Alfreds Church 272 Vine Street St. Catharines	255 Gilmore Rd. Fort Erie
VERNA CRAIG 905-354-1640	905-735-5697	LINDA REINHART 905-834-3629	JANE COCCO 905-708-7402	905-871-1592

The schedule might change. For information call Public Health: 905-688-8248, Ext. 7512 OR 905-688-3762 OR 1-800-263-5757

Dental Services are **NOT** Available



NOTICE TO DOG OWNERS

2011 DOG LICENSES

City of Port Colborne 2011 Dog Licenses are now available for purchase and are due March 15.

- The following discounted rates apply for licenses purchased on or before March 15:

Un-Neutered/Un-spayed Dogs \$25.00
Neutered/Spayed Dogs (proof required) \$15.00

- After March 15 the regular rates of \$35.00 and \$25.00 apply.

TAGS MAY BE PURCHASED AT:

- City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street
- The Port Colborne Animal Shelter, 1080 Elm Street
- Independent Discount Pet Supply, 730 Main Street West
- Pet Valu, Westside Place Plaza, Westside Road

- Dog owners who fail to purchase a dog license before the due date are liable for a set fine under Part 1 Provincial Offences Act.

Peter Senese

Director of Community & Corporate Services and Treasurer



Check the
City of Port Colborne
Web Site:

www.portcolborne.ca
for News Releases, Public
Notices and Media Releases

CHECK THE CITY OF
PORT COLBORNE
ON FACEBOOK:
http://www.facebook.com/
cityofportcolborne

CITY OF PORT COLBORNE

PUBLIC NOTICE

REMOVAL OF SNOW AND ICE FROM PUBLIC SIDEWALKS AND ROOFS AND DUMPING OF SNOW ON HIGHWAYS

OWNERS OR OCCUPANTS OF PROPERTY within the City of Port Colborne are hereby reminded of the provisions of By-law No. 5383/137/09 which requires that every owner or occupant of every class of building shall clear away and remove as completely as is practicable, all snow and ice from roofs and public sidewalks on the streets, in front of, alongside and at the rear of such buildings.

All ice and snow shall be cleared away from such roofs and from sidewalks adjoining their premises 24 hours after the formation of ice or snowfall ends.

Where an occupant of buildings adjoining a street in Port Colborne refuses or neglects to comply with the requirements of the two preceding subsections, the snow and ice shall be cleared away and removed from the roofs of such buildings and from sidewalks adjoining their premises, or the ice on the sidewalks shall be covered with sand, or other substance, by the Corporation, at the expense of the said occupant and the Corporation may recover the expense incurred in so doing by action or in like manner as municipal taxes.

OWNERS OR OCCUPANTS OF PROPERTY within the City of Port Colborne are also reminded of the provisions which prohibit the dumping of snow from private property on to the street.

OWNERS OR OCCUPANTS OF PROPERTY within the City of Port Colborne are advised of the provision which prohibits the use of any vehicle to plow which is wider than the sidewalk being plowed.

Your co-operation in complying with these provisions would be appreciated and would avoid the use of the enforcement provision of the by-law.

**We are currently accepting applications for our
2011 Summer Student Lottery!**

2011 Summer Employment

To be considered for a placement you must meet all of the following requirements:

REQUIREMENTS:

- Valid Class G or G2 Ontario Drivers License, proof will be requested
- Available for full time work as of May 2, 2011 to September 5, 2011
- Student enrolment for September 2011 (Fall Term), proof will be requested
- Availability to work flexible hours - weekends, statutory holidays, special events

Applications are available at City Hall or can be found on our website under Employment Opportunities at www.portcolborne.ca.

Completed applications must be returned by January 7, 2011 to Human Resources, City of Port Colborne, 66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 3C8
E-mail: hr@portcolborne.ca Fax: (905) 835-2969

Personal information is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, C.25 and will be used to determine suitability. We thank all applicants and advise that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

12th Annual

SPORTSFEST PORT COLBORNE

The City of Port Colborne is now in preparation for the 12th Annual Sportsfest. The Event Kickoff will take place on Friday, February 17, 2011 and activities will run through to Sunday, February 19, 2011.

Sportsfest is a time when our community comes together, where local businesses and community groups present a sport or activity and the proceeds go to various charities. This celebration of winter activity promotes healthy active living and teamwork with friendship and fun at a time of the year where there is a tendency to be inactive. The benefits of Sportsfest include:

- Recreational activities for all ages
- Healthy lifestyle promotion
- Community groups working together for a common goal

- The opportunity for charity fundraising
- Showcasing Port Colborne

We would like to send you a challenge to:

- Create a new event
- Encourage participation
- Help us present this winter event to our community with a donation or sponsorship

PLEASE CONTACT

Sandy J. Pilot,
Community Partnership
Coordinator at 905-835-2900 ext. 110
or sandyjpilot@portcolborne.ca
with any questions regarding sponsorship opportunities;
and Allaina Kane, Special Events
Coordinator at 905-834-1688 ext. 234
with any Event related questions.

**We are now accepting seasonal deposits
for the 2011 boating season.**



Reserve your dock today!

GIFT CERTIFICATES ARE AVAILABLE.

Contact by phone: 905-835-6644

email: marina@portcolborne.ca

3 Marina Road, Port Colborne, ON L3K 6C6



sugarloaf marina
Port Colborne

EVERY KID



IN OUR COMMUNITY

PORT COLBORNE • WAINFLEET

Every Kid in Our Community Port Colborne/Wainfleet is a network of 30+ local organizations that are interested in improving the lives of ALL kids in both communities. We host many fun events in the community at no cost to families. Last year, we had family BBQ's, a back to school Street Dance and Backpack give away, and a Halloween Party. We will be hosting many more events in the coming year, so stay tuned!! Our goal is to create opportunities for children and youth to 18 years of age and by working together we will build a community where every child is SAFE, HEALTHY and VALUED!

20% of our population is 100% of our future!

This is a non-profit network that relies on grants and donations to fund our free activities.

Carbon Monoxide



Keeping Safe from the SILENT KILLER!

The following information is provided by the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA). For more information about carbon monoxide safety, visit their website at www.tssa.org, or contact Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services.

WHAT IS CARBON MONOXIDE?

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colourless, odourless, tasteless and toxic gas and is often referred to as the "silent killer". When inhaled it inhibits the blood's capacity to transport oxygen throughout the body. It can poison the body quickly in high concentrations, or slowly over long periods of time.

WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING?

Exposure to CO can cause flu-like symptoms such as headaches, nausea, dizziness, burning eyes, confusion, drowsiness or loss of consciousness. In severe cases, CO poisoning can cause brain damage and death. The elderly, children and people with heart or respiratory conditions may be particularly sensitive to CO.

WHAT ARE SOME DANGER SIGNS?

- You or other members of your family have symptoms of CO exposure (see above).
- You notice a sharp, penetrating odour or smell of gas when your furnace or other fuel-burning equipment turns on.
- The fire is stale or stuffy.
- The pilot light of your furnace or other fuel burning equipment goes out.
- Chalky white powder forms on the chimney/flue/vent pipe or soot build-up occurs around the exhaust vent.

IF YOU SUSPECT CARBON MONOXIDE IN YOUR HOME GET OUT OF YOUR HOUSE AND CALL 911!

WHERE SHOULD A CO ALARM BE INSTALLED IN THE HOME?

Proper placement of a CO alarm is important; in general, the human body is most vulnerable to the effects of CO during sleeping hours, so an alarm should be located in or as near as possible to the sleeping area of the home.

ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT PORT COLBORNE FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES 905-834-4512

Is Your Family Prepared? GetPrepared.ca

BASIC EMERGENCY KIT

You may have some of these basic emergency kit items already, such as a flashlight, battery-operated radio, food, water and blankets. The key is to make sure they are organized, easy to find and easy to carry in a suitcase with wheels or in a backpack in case you need to evacuate your home. Whatever you do, don't wait for a disaster to happen.

Easy to carry – think of ways that you can pack your emergency kit so that you and those on your emergency plan can easily take the items with you, if necessary.

- **WATER** – two litres of water per person per day (include small bottles that can be carried easily in case of an evacuation order)
- **FOOD** – that won't spoil, such as canned food, energy bars and dried foods (remember to replace the food and water once a year)
- **MANUAL CAN OPENER**
- **FLASHLIGHT AND BATTERIES**
- **BATTERY-POWERED OR WIND-UP RADIO** (and extra batteries)

batteries)

- **FIRST AID KIT**
- **SPECIAL NEEDS ITEMS** – prescription medications, infant formula or equipment for people with disabilities
- **EXTRA KEYS** – for your car and house
- **CASH** – include smaller bills, such as \$10 bills (travellers cheques are also useful) and change for payphones
- **EMERGENCY PLAN** – include a copy of it and ensure it contains in-town and out-of-town contact information

DID YOU KNOW: Two litres of water per person per day is the recommended amount to have on hand in case of emergency.

72 HOURS IS YOUR FAMILY PREPARED?

If an emergency happens in your community, it may take emergency workers some time to reach you. You should be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for a minimum of 72 hours.



PORT COLBORNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Port Colborne Public Library
310 King Street
Port Colborne, ON L3K 4H1

Phone: 905-834-6512

Fax: 905-835-5775

email: library@portcolborne.ca

HOURS OF SERVICE

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday:

10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday:

9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Holiday Hours

THE LIBRARY WILL BE OPEN:

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2010
TO FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2010

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED:

Friday, December 24, 2010
to Tuesday, December 28, 2010
Saturday, January 1, 2011
to Monday, January 3, 2011

The library will re-open on: Tuesday, January 4, 2011

NIAGARA BIRDS

In support of ecological literacy, the Library is pleased to offer for sale copies of *Niagara Birds*, edited by John E. Black and Kaye J. Roy. This book fills a wide gap in knowledge about birds of the Niagara Region. It contains complete accounts of the 373 species of birds that have occurred in Regional Niagara during the forty-one year period 1966 to 2006. Full data on the relative abundance, breeding evidence, and early and late dates of birds in the Region are compiled by each of the four seasons: spring, summer, fall and winter. This beautiful and comprehensive book has more than 500 outstanding photographs as well as a selection of line drawings, paintings and prints. The Ontario Trillium Foundation provided the funds to make possible the distribution of the book to all libraries in Niagara. Your Library has one copy for circulation (598.0971338 Nia) as well as copies for sale to the public. At \$55, it's the perfect gift for the nature lover on your list. Pick up yours today at the Library!

HELP DECORATE OUR MITTEN TREE! NOVEMBER 15 - DECEMBER 17

Bring new mittens, gloves, hats and scarves into the Library and place them on our first ever Mitten Tree. We will donate your gifts to the Coats for Kids and Families program. Non-perishable food items will also be accepted for donation to the Port Cares Reach Out Centre. Thank you for your support!

SIGN UP FOR DECEMBER CRAFTS FOR KIDS!

For ages 4 to 10. Thursdays, December 2, 9 and 16, 2010. 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Cost per craft is \$5.00. Pre-registration is required.

December 2nd: "Clay Pot Frosty." Enjoy the outside, inside, with this special winter friendly.

December 9th: "Bird Feeders." Bring birds to your backyard with these fun birdfeeders!

December 16th: "Pet Gifts." Make a special Christmas gift for your dog or cat!

RENT THE KING STREET ILLUMINATED SIGN

Call the Library now at 905-834-6512 to rent the King Street sign for your community or business event. 2011 rates are \$50 per side per week. Specify north or south side and book in advance to avoid disappointment. Thank you for supporting your public library!

ART IN THE LIBRARY...FEATURING WORK BY LOCAL ARTISTS AND ARTISANS:

On display in the Atrium until January 15, 2011:

"The Subject is Clear:" an exhibition of paintings in pastel by Ray Beecher.

HAVE A Fire-Safe Christmas!

Make sure the base of your Christmas tree is immersed in water at all times.

Never place lit candles on or near the tree.



ALONG THE LAKESHORE

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8

Holiday Craft at the Wainfleet Township Public Library. Drop in any time from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. to make decorations to deck your halls with. For children ages 5 and up.

THURSDAY, DEC. 9

Preschool Story Time for Ages 2-5 at the Wainfleet Township Public Library from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. A six-week program of stories, songs, activities and crafts runs Thursdays from No fee for the program but please call 905-899-1277 to pre-register. Each child must be accompanied by their parent/caregiver. This Session's Theme is It's Getting Chilly at your Library.

Philosopher's Café at the Wainfleet Township Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Drop by for a lively discussion. December's topic of discussion is "Advice." All welcome. No philosophy training required, real life experience desired.

AT THE PORT COLBORNE PUBLIC LIBRARY
Art in the Atrium: "The Subtle Effect is Clear: an Exhibition of Paintings in Pastel" by Rey Baecher. In the Atrium, October 15, 2010 to January 15, 2011.

Kids' Yoga with Nadia Eposito. For ages 4 to 11. From 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. New six week session begins Tuesday, November 2nd to December 7th. Cost is \$25 per session or \$5.00 per drop-in. To register call Nadia at 905-329-9841.

Create with Kathleen: Adult art classes with Kathleen Thorsen of Stone House Art Gallery. Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to noon, starting September 7th. Cost is \$15.00 per class, materials supplied. Ongoing. For more information, contact Kathleen by phone at 905-834-9784 or by email at: kathleen.thorsen@cogeco.ca.

Small Hands Studio: Art Workshops for Children. With Kelly Langley Davies. Painting, drawing and sculpting. Mondays, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., September 13,

2010 to June 27, 2011. Four-week session fee is \$55.00. Five-week session fee is \$65. Save \$5 per child per session when you book two or more siblings in the same session. Call Kelly at 905-834-8483 for more information.

Express Yourself! Writer's Workshop: With facilitators Kitty and Gary Roy. Thursdays, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Explore your own abilities to express your thoughts, emotions and dreams using the written word. Receive critiques on your works in a non-judgmental forum. Get practical information on getting published. For more information, contact the facilitators at gray10@cogeco.ca or call the library at 905-834-6512.

ONGOING
March of Dimes is celebrating its 60th Anniversary in 2011 and needs your help. The charity is seeking volunteers in Welland and Port Colborne to help support its Door-to-Door Campaign in January. Please join a sixty-year tradition of generosity and help children and adults with disabilities in your community. We still need

canvassers and captains to join the campaign. For more information or to volunteer please call 1-800-263-3463 ext. 7705 or e-mail door-2door@marchofdimes.ca. To learn more about March of Dimes' programs and services for people with disabilities, please visit www.marchofdimes.ca.

Alzheimer Society of Niagara Region Support Groups for Caregivers meets the first Tuesday of each month (except for July and August) at 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Rapelle Lodge, 277 Plymouth Rd., Welland. For more information call 905-687-3914.

Port Colborne Ontario Early Years Centre offers interactive play sessions, mornings: Monday to Friday from 9-12 and afternoons: Monday to Thursday from 1-4. These programs are for children under the age of six years and their parent or caregiver and are free of charge. Please visit the Ontario Early Years Centre, Port Carleton, 92 Charlotte St., Port Colborne or call 905-834-9071 ext. 238 or email oeycc-pc@portcarleton.on.ca for more information.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORIES

"Make your memories last"

HOLIDAY SPECIALS

HOLIDAY GREETINGS

Personalize your Christmas Cards

79¢ each
for 15 or more

ORDER YOUR 2011 CALENDARS EARLY... FOR

\$19.99
+ TAX
\$5.00 Shipping Fee

PHOTOBOOKS AVAILABLE

4x6, 5x7 & 8x10's

See in store for details...

WOULD MAKE A GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT

SANTA PHOTOS

December 3rd

5:30-8:00pm

Bring in a non-perishable food item for a FREE 5x7 photo

Located in

BOGGIO PHARMACY

200 Catharine Street,
DOWNTOWN PORT COLBORNE
905-834-2240

Visit my website... **PortColborneHomes.com** **WainfleetHomes.com**

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Direct Line

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2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009
FULL TIME PROFESSIONAL 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE

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503 Elm St., Port Colborne
905-834-7777



■ ROSELAWN: Part of authors' series

Trudeau shares battle with mental illness



For InPort News

PORT COLBORNE — Margaret Trudeau is certainly no stranger to the spotlight. At the tender age of 22, she was whisked away by Pierre Trudeau. Their marriage ended in 1984, but Trudeau admits she never stopped loving Canada's most celebrated prime minister.

A free spirit and a self-described "earth child," Trudeau addressed an audience at the Roselawn Centre in Port Colborne last Thursday evening. She has been touring across Niagara promoting her new book, *Changing My Mind*, already one of Canada's bestsellers.

Trudeau writes the book like her diary, focusing on the mental illness she has struggled with every day of her life. "It's about the journey I've had since I was a young woman. After the birth of my second son, I had my first bout with deep depression," a candid Trudeau said in front of a sold-out crowd.

The mental ups and downs

KRISTA ASHFORD Staff Photo
Margaret Trudeau at the Roselawn Centre, where she read from her book *Changing My Mind*.

took both Trudeau and her husband "off guard" and sparked the first lady's highly publicized escapades — scandalous outfits, partying at Club 54 in New York City and consorting with rock stars.

"Sadness is a part of life. Life is loss. Sadness and sorrow are fine, depression is not. Depression is a chemical imbalance in your brain," said Trudeau.

She struggled for years to find a way to balance her extreme emotions. Trudeau would go through periods of "manic" where she would be happy, energetic and boisterous, but those periods would be followed by lasting periods of depression that would leave her housebound and miserable. These are times Trudeau described herself as "not functioning" or having "impaired insight."

"You never think about the consequences (of your actions), you don't have the ability."

In the 1970s, not much was known about mental illness, and despite numerous visits to several different doctors, Trudeau said she never received proper medication or treatment.

Triggers for her depression could be the hormonal

fluctuations she experienced after her pregnancies or life situations, such as the death of her son Michel in 1986.

"He lives on in our hearts and our memories," a teary-eyed Trudeau said about her son.

The death of Pierre triggered another period of depression for Trudeau; she was at his bedside when he died in 2000.

She described him as "graceful" and "elegant" and a man who appealed to her intellectual nature. Despite their marriage ending, Pierre always remained her "mentor."

"I think that was the worst part of my life, helping Pierre Trudeau die. I'd never watched anybody die, but not my love, not my children's father, it was awful."

After years of experimenting with mood equalizers and therapy, Trudeau finally found a way to overcome her illness. With mental developments in medicine and mental health, Trudeau has found her niche as an advocate for the awareness of bipolar disorder, its effects on the brain and how to treat it.

"I want to reach out and tell people about the extraordinary change in my life that happened because I accepted the fact that I had a mental illness. You can't do it alone, life is just too lonely," said Trudeau.

Trudeau may have lived most of her life in the Canadian spotlight, but as it turns out, we never knew her at all.

Changing My Mind is on sale now, and for more information on mental illness in Canada visit the Canadian Mental Health Association website at cmha.ca.

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Q. What is a soft liner?

The permanent soft liner is a layer of soft material that is fitted to the surface of your denture and rests next to the oral tissues. The soft liner acts as a cushion or shock absorber between the hard plastic of the denture and the gum area. The soft base will not hold the resorption of your gum, whose shape and thickness are constantly changing, and the reason for your denture getting looser, but it will ensure that your denture provides continued comfort as time goes by.

Q. What are the advantages of a soft liner?

To name just a few reasons: • Great comfort. • With soft liners, many denture wearers report that they can chew food more comfortably and effectively.

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■ **RADIO:** Internet-based

Tuning in to Crawford's 12 days of Christmas

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Comedian Joe Crawford has a pile of gifts to hand out in the 12 days leading up to Christmas.

And he's inviting people from the community to listen to his Internet-based radio show for a chance to be included on his "nice" list.

Crawford runs an online

radio talk show, called the Joe Show, that can be listened to by logging on to www.blogradio.com/jkalkshow. Normally, he only does one show a month. His last 30-minute show was on Nov. 13, and featured an interview with author Erno Rossi, talking about his books including *White Death: The Blizzard of '77*.

But in the weeks ahead, Crawford plans to broadcast

his show on each of the 12 days of Christmas from Dec. 12 to 23, at 6:30 p.m., and on each of those days he will hand out prizes donated by local busi-



Joe Crawford

nesses. He said as a result of their generosity, he has about \$3,000 worth of prizes to give away, including such items as gift certificates for golf courses, spas and restaurants.

Crawford also plans to have a few special guests on his show, including Santa Claus himself, representatives from NORAD, which tracks Santa's annual flight, as well as shows dedicated to holiday decorat-

ing tips. Crawford is also asking people to help him make a dream of his own come true. Crawford met Regis Philbin a few years ago during a gig at the casino, but now he is hoping for an opportunity to replace him on his show, *Live With Regis and Kelly* — for a day anyway.

Crawford is asking people to nominate him for the Men of Radio Co-host Search contest,

looking for a male radio personality to join Kelly Ripa as the show's co-host for a day.

Crawford asked people to log on to <http://bit.ly/DIUWT> to fill out a nominating form, by adding their contact information and then filling in the following information:

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■ TREE PLANTING

City offering tree-bates for native species

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Apply for a tree-bate.

Port Colborne residents looking to make their property a little greener can do so with a little help from the city.

The city's environmental advisory committee is accepting applications for its Tree Rebate program, which offers citizens 50% buck on the cost of native trees for the property up to a maximum of \$40 per household.

Residents who plant trees from a list of native species posted on the city's website, www.portcolborne.ca/arc

eligible for approval by the program, which is retroactive to January 2010.

A portion of the funds set aside for the program are given to public facilities, such as schools, that apply for funding to help replenish the tree population throughout the city.

The program recently donated three sugar maples to St. Patrick Catholic School. Palma said the program is good incentive to encourage residents to help replenish the tree population throughout the city.

Rebate applications can be picked up at city hall or found online at the city's website.



Supplied photo

St. Patrick Catholic School has three new sugar maple trees adorning its property thanks to the City of Port Colborne's tree rebate program. A ceremonial planting was held Thursday. Pictured from left are Chris Lee, manager of projects and design for the city; students Jordyn Gregowski, Emily Meydon, Eric Birrell and Natalie Palma; principal Susan Tromhauser and Beth Palma, a member of Port Colborne's environmental committee.

■ CHAMBER OF COMMERCE: Lunch and learn session

Slow recovery predicted for businesses

ALLAN BENNER
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Things are getting better, but it will be some time before businesses see the same kind of growth they did prior to the recession.

David Moore said fears that the economy could again fall into a recession are unwarranted, "but when you're planning for future growth you've got to really consider that you're just not going to see the growth that we saw pre-recession."

Moore, a vice-president of finance and enterprise planning from Meridian Credit Union's St. Catharines office, shared that message with local businesspeople during a Port Colborne-Wainfleet Chamber of Commerce Lunch and Learn session.

He said the Canadian economy is still very much tied to the U.S. economy. And south of the border, he said, economists are predicting very modest growth in the near future.

One challenge holding back economic recovery is

the housing market.

"It's doubled since 2000. Incomes haven't and there's not sustainable long term," he said. Meanwhile, he said, "overall, personal debt levels are at an all time high."

He said it's led to a lot of people refinancing their debts in the U.S., and increasingly here, too.

Despite the challenges ahead, Moore said there are also opportunities for small- and medium-sized businesses.



David Moore

"The flip side of all this is the companies that can take on additional leverage, interest rates have never been more attractive than they are right now," he said. "Residential mortgage rates, our posted rate right now is 3.36%. I've never in my entire career have seen the five-year mortgage rate that low."

The 10-year mortgage rate is extremely low, too. It's under 5%, he added.

"So if you're in a position where you can take on some leverage and make some investments, the costs are pretty attractive right now."

While he's not an economist, Moore said he presented economic information to his audience of about 40 people at Roselawn Centre from the perspective of a small business owner — giving them information they can use.

"I tried to distill it down into some key parts for the business owners to think about for the upcoming year."

abenner@wellandtribune.ca

■ UNITED WAY WINEMAKERS DINNER

DAVE JOHNSON
Staff Photo

Cansdale Pub and Eatery held a winemakers dinner to raise funds for United Way of South Niagara on Wednesday night. It's the second dinner the Port Colborne restaurant has held for United Way. Enjoying a glass of wine, and a hunter's harvest of wild game, are, from left, Rick Prior, Tom Johnson, Maria Moessner of Vincor Winery, United Way executive director Peter Papp and Cansdale co-owner Greg Poisson. The restaurant raised \$1,200 for United Way.



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■ PORT COLBORNE CHORALE



JOE CSEH Staff Photo

The Port Colborne Chorale is shown rehearsing at St. James & St. Brendan Anglican Church Monday night with music director William Outred for its concert *Bringing Christmas to You* on Friday, Dec. 10 at 7:30 p.m. at St. James & St. Brendan Anglican Church in Port Colborne. The group sings contemporary and sacred music, admission is \$8 and tickets can be purchased from any Chorale member or by phoning 905-835-815

■ PROJECTS: One being developed in Welland as well

Old Port Colborne bowling alley to become home for disabled

ALLAN BENNER
InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — The old bowling alley on King St. in Port Colborne will soon be home to 20 people who are living with disabilities, while work is already underway to transform a former City of Welland parking lot into affordable housing for 25 seniors.

The projects are being developed by Gateway Residential and Goodwill Industries, respectively. In Port Colborne, Gateway Residential received \$2.1 million through the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program to pay for the complete renovation of the defunct bowling alley at 569 King St.

Goodwill Industries is receiving \$2.9 million to help pay for the project at 1 Churchill Ave. in Welland.

Other projects are planned for St. Catharines and Thorold bringing the total new affordable housing units being built in

Niagara to 133.

Gateway executive director John Osczyk said the old bowling alley is "in pretty rough shape," but there are plans to renovate the existing structure and add a second floor.

He said renovating is a little less expensive than tearing it down and creating a new building. It will also provide construction workers with some shelter as they work through the winter. Osczyk said the designs have been completed, and the project has been presented to Port Colborne city council for approval.

He said zoning changes required for the residential building have been approved.

"We're just waiting for the building permit and we hope to have it by month's end at the latest."

Once that arrives, construction can begin.

"Without the funding we could not have done it," he said, praising

the federal and provincial governments' involvement. "We're a not-for-profit agency. We don't own land or have that kind of revenue."

Gateway recently established a 28-unit affordable housing building on Welland's King St. Osczyk said the new Port Colborne building will have similar amenities, but on a slightly smaller scale.

It will be "just as attractive" as the one in Welland.

"It'll be a really nice building. Hopefully it'll complement the neighbourhood and enhance it."

Osczyk said the waiting list for a single-unit in an affordable housing unit is currently between six and eight years in Port Colborne.

Preliminary work on Goodwill's project on Churchill St. has been underway for the past several months, as water services are extended to the site.

abenner@wellandtribune.ca

■ ARTS PLACE: Gallery holding show



JOHN VESSOYAN Staff Photo

Local artists Diana Himman, left, and Joyce Honsberger are promoting the *In The Night* exhibition of fine art at Arts Place in Port Colborne, which opens its doors to the public on Saturday. The gallery is at 714 King St.

Fine art on display for Christmas

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — Members of Arts Place Gallery were busy this week setting up displays for their annual Christmas show.

In the Spirit, an exhibition of fine art at the Arts Place gallery, opens Saturday and

runs until Jan. 9. The gallery is located at 714 King St.

Water colour, oil and acrylic paintings will be on display and for sale, as well as pottery and sculptures.

Joyce Honsberger and Diana Himman are encouraging local art lovers to come out and see the fine work.

"It's a little island of culture," Himman said as Honsberger, George Sanders, Doug Carter and Derek Richards were hanging paintings on the walls.

The gallery will be open from Thursdays to Sundays, noon to 4:30 p.m.

There is no cost to enter the gallery.

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■ LAKESHORE: School flying various flags

Homage paid to students' homelands

InPort News Staff

PORT COLBORNE — When Lakeshore Catholic High School proudly displays its flags, it's not just about an assortment of the Maple Leaf.

In the school's Great Hall, 22 flags from countries including South Korea, Colombia, the Philippines and Uganda hang in three sections from the ceiling.

Each flag represents the birthplace of a student.

It's the first year the school has hung flags from

around the world. It's a project principal Danny DiLorenzo is proud of.

"It's part of our equity and inclusion to make all students feel welcome and they can identify with part of their identity at Lakeshore Catholic High School."

DiLorenzo heard of the program elsewhere and wanted to implement it at his Port Colborne school. Using registration records, the school was able to determine students' countries of origin.

"Students took it to heart," he said. "We're celebrating

our diverse cultures."

Kevin Herrera, who has been in Canada for the past nine months, appreciates the gesture.

"It reminds me of where I'm from," Herrera said of El Salvador's blue and white flag that hangs in front of the cafeteria.

It's part of our equity and inclusion to make all students feel welcome and they can identify with part of their identity at Lakeshore."

Danny DiLorenzo, Lakeshore Catholic High School principal

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■ TEST DRIVE: 2010 Dodge Avenger

Avenger fits right into midsize segment

ANNETTE MCLEOD
QMI Agency



Chrysler photo

I can't guess exactly what the Avenger is meant to be evenging, but it ain't attacks from most of the other midsize sedans. It's not that the Dodge Avenger is horrible — it isn't; it's just kinda... meh. And in a segment with approximately 17,000 competitors, 'meh' isn't going to cut it.

In a sea of bland sedans, at least the 2010 Dodge Avenger's styling stands out, with baby Charger looks including aggressive flanks in front, and a sexy rear-end. The inside story is similarly muscular and chunky, with white-faced gauges in the R/T that redeem its abundance of hard plastic and faux metal.

On the road, it doesn't offer as cushy a ride as I expected from the segment and I encounter some shake on uneven surfaces. The R/T's 3.5-litre V6, paired to a six-speed automatic, purrs along at highway speeds, from the get-go it pays to use the manual mode to get the revs up before launch. The 5th and 232 lb.-ft. don't quite add up to the sum of their parts, and shouldn't make for as much torque steer as it does.

Overall visibility is good except for compromised rearward sightlines. After a couple of weeks spent in Chrysler products that lacked a telescoping feature on the steering wheel (and failed to compensate by substituting adjustable pedals), it was nice to find a fully adjustable steering wheel in Avenger.

Interior build quality is merely O.K. with smallish cubbies and centre console storage, but the simplicity of dash and instruments, and unfussy controls help mitigate it. Overall, I like Dodge's Uconnect voice-activated communication system, but the voice recognition is occasionally laughable. Me: Call Rose. Her: Calling... Shawn.

Seats are cushy enough but lacking in the supportive bolstering you might anticipate from its muscular exterior.

The backseat is a bit tight, with the sloping roofline doing no favours for headroom — really more of a four-seater than a five. Trunk space isn't as generous as competition either.

It has done very well in crash tests and features multi-stage front airbags and supplemental side airbags, tire pressure monitoring and active head restraints. Convenience features are ample for the R/T's \$24,785 entry price, with air, power eight-way driver's seat, steering wheel-mounted audio controls, Cruise Zone, blind power windows and locks, manual driver's lumbar adjust and 17-inch aluminum wheels, but I would have liked traction control thrown in too.

After cruising around the internet reading consumer reviews, it certainly seems the public likes it better than the motoring press, and at the end of the day, that's what counts. For 2011, Dodge promises sweeping changes including retuned suspension, new powertrain options such as a 3.6-litre V6 and "world-class levels of craftsmanship, content and comfort" inside. If anything but price is going to lure buyers away from Chevy and Accord, I hope it's right.

It's affordable, it looks great and offers a decent rating on the fuel-economy but after a week in it, I remain underwhelmed. I know it's a midsize sedan, but its exterior styling had me hoping for far better than middle of the road.